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ABSTRACT**A NOVEL HUMAN JAK2 KINASE**

The present invention provides a polynucleotide (hjak2) which identifies and encodes a novel human Jak2 kinase (HJAK2) which was expressed in the placenta. The present invention also provides for antisense molecules and oligomers designed from the nucleotide sequence or its antisense. The invention further provides genetically engineered expression vectors and host cells for the production of purified HJAK2 peptide, antibodies capable of binding to HJAK2, inhibitors which bind to HJAK2 and pharmaceutical compositions based on HJAK2 specific antibodies or inhibitors. The invention specifically provides for diagnostic assays based on altered hjak2 expression and which allow identification of such a condition. These assays utilize probes which comprise oligomers, fragments, or portions of hjak2 or its regulatory elements or antibodies specifically binding HJAK2.

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